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**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS  
OPERATIONAL POLICY  
RESPONSE, TREATMENT  
AND TRANSPORT**

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If any one member of the EMS team, regardless of their team assignment, feels it is in the best interest of a patient to be evaluated and/or transported, the EMS unit will evaluate and/or transport the patient. The level of transport will be determined by patient assessment needs and treatment provided.

Advanced procedures are defined in HFS 110 as: prehospital care consisting of basic life support procedures and invasive lifesaving procedures including the placement of advanced airway adjuncts, intravenous infusions, manual defibrillation, electrocardiogram interpretation, administration of approved drugs and other advanced skills identified in the Wisconsin scopes of practice.

Transport shall be to the closest, most appropriate open receiving hospital, taking into consideration:

- Patient's medical condition;
- Patient's request;
- Location of regular care, primary medical doctor and/or medical records;
- Insurance/HMO.

Patient needs will dictate transport to a specialty hospital. Documentation on the patient care record should support the decision to transport for specialty care.

Transport from the scene with lights and siren shall only be done when EMS providers are unable to stabilize the patient at the scene.

EMS providers shall never advise a patient that transport to a medical facility for examination by a physician is not necessary, or that the patient may drive or be driven in a private vehicle or by other medically unsupervised means. When a patient refuses ambulance transport, the standard for refusal of treatment/transport should be followed.

If a patient refuses care and/or transport and the EMS response team has doubts regarding that patient's ability to make a rational decision, the appropriate authority should be consulted (medical control, guardian, police, etc.).

